

U.S.S.N. 10,636,076

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JAN 23 2007Remarks

Thorough examination by the Examiner is noted and appreciated.

The claims have been amended and new claims added to clarify Applicants disclosed and claimed invention and to achieve indicated allowable subject matter.

Support for the amendments is found in the original claims including in the Specification and the Figures:

No new matter has been added.

For example, support for the amendments and new claims is found in the Specification at:

Paragraph 0031:

As shown in FIG. 3, a camera assembly 56 is provided in the chamber interior 54 and typically includes an elongated, horizontal camera support 58 which may be engaged by a motion actuating mechanism 74 through a support arm 76. The motion actuating mechanism 74 is provided in the bottom of the chamber interior 54 and may be a stepper motor, for example, or any other mechanism which is capable of moving the camera support 58 in a **bidirectional horizontal motion** in the chamber interior 54, as

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indicated by the arrows and in the manner hereinafter described. As shown in FIG. 4, the motion actuating mechanism 74 is electrically connected, through wiring 75, to a motion controller 78 which controls the forward and reverse motions of the camera support 58 in the chamber interior 54.

Paragraph 0031:

**"A camera 62, having a light 64, is provided on the forward end of the camera support 58. In a preferred embodiment, the camera 62 is a panoramic charge coupled device (CCD) which is well known in the art. The camera 62 is connected, through a camera cable 63, to a video monitor 82, as shown in FIG. 4, which video monitor 82 displays images illuminated by the light 64 and viewed by the camera 62. As further shown in FIG. 4, a recording device 84 may be connected to the video monitor 82, typically through a cable 85, for recording of the images on a video cassette recorder (VCR) tape, a digital video disk (DVD), or other recording media."**

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 102

1. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-10, 12-13, 15-17, and 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Langley (US 6,424,733).

Langley discloses a cluster tool including an adjacent inspection station for inspecting a wafer following processing in a process chamber (see Abstract). The inspection station is equipped with a light source, preferably a laser, (36; Figure 1) stationarily positioned above the wafer (26) which is positioned

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on a rotatable chuck (40) within the inspection chamber, and a light receiver (38) stably positioned above the wafer for receiving light reflected from the wafer within the inspection chamber (i.e., at an angle about 45 degrees from perpendicular of the wafer (see light beams 44, 50; Figure 1). (see also col 3, lines 50-53; col 4, lines 1-10; lines 15-23; lines 47-52).

Thus, Langley fails to disclose several aspects of Applicants invention including those elements in **bold type**:

"an inspection chamber positioned horizontally adjacent the at least one process chamber; and

"a camera provided in said inspection chamber, **said camera mounted on a camera support, said camera support adapted to horizontally bi-directionally move within said inspection chamber to position said camera to view the interior of the at least one process chamber.**"

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051,

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1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

"The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

2. Claims 3, 7 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Langley above, in view of Pollock et al. (US 5,421,889).

Applicants reiterate the above comments with respect to Langley.

Even assuming *arguendo* a proper motivation for combination, the further fact that Pollock et al. disclose flipping and gripping assemblies within an intermediate chamber to grasp and remove a sample (wafer) from a robot arm, invert the sample and return the sample to the robot arm so that the robot arm may place the sample face down in a process chamber for face-down processing to reduce contamination falling on the sample (wafer), (see Abstract; (col 5, lines 30-42), does not further help

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Examiner in producing Applicants invention.

"Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure." *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

Conclusion

The cited references, alone or in combination, fail to produce Applicants disclosed and claimed invention and therefore fail to make out a *prima facie* case of anticipation or obviousness with respect to Applicants independent and dependent claims.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge indicated allowable subject matter in claims 14, and 18 and have amended the claims including claim 13 to achieve allowable subject matter.

Applicants have amended the claims and added new claims to

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clarify their disclosed and claimed invention to achieve allowable subject matter and respectfully request favorable consideration by Examiner.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the Claims are now in condition for allowance. Such favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is respectfully solicited.

In the event that the present invention as claimed is not in condition for allowance for any reason, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative at his Bloomfield Hills, Michigan office at (248) 540-4040 such that necessary action may be taken to place the application in a condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,  
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